

Please amend the written description as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

--Various implementations may include one or more of the following features. [[2.]] --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

-- ~~The method of claim 1 wherein~~ For example, in some implementations, the optical signal has a beat frequency that is based on the first and second frequencies. ~~For example, the~~ The method may include comparing a pattern corresponding to the detected optical signal to a reference pattern of marks and determining whether the first and second components are properly positioned with respect to one another based on the comparison. In a particular implementation, light may be directed onto a reference pattern of marks in one of the components, where the reference pattern of marks corresponds to a superposition of the first and second patterns. A second optical signal based on the reference pattern of marks in the component may be detected and a determination may be made as to whether the first and second components are properly positioned with respect to one another based on the detected optical signals. --

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

-- Next, the top cladding layer 113 is removed from the front part of the structure. The portion of the core glass layer ~~116~~ that defines the alignment tapers 119 and the pattern of marks 102 also is removed from the front part of the structure to reveal the remaining etch stop

layer 114 as shown in illustrated in FIG. 8. An RIE process may be used to remove the top cladding layer ~~113~~ as well as the core glass layer ~~116~~ on the front part of the structure. --